

RIO VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

2006-2007 Solano County Grand Jury

Reason for Investigation

California Penal Code § 919 Subsection (b) provides: “The Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons within the county.” Pursuant to the statute, the 2006-2007 Grand Jury inspected the Rio Vista Police Department.

Grand Jury Actions

- Toured the Rio Vista Police Department
- Inspected pre-booking area

Background / Summary

The Rio Vista Police Department (Department) has no holding cells. Individuals are transported to the Solano County Jail in Fairfield. Transport to the county jail averages one per day.

On the day of our inspection, the Department had 18 employees of which 15 were sworn officers. The officers work either a three 12-hour shift or a four 12-hour shift each week. The overtime rate is 15 to 20 percent. These officers also provide bike patrol for city events. Five volunteers and a Solano County Deputy Sheriff also support the Department. The police department began a volunteer open recruitment program in September 2006. The hiring of additional officers is expected by January 2007.

The police department uses the Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) program to aid in their efforts to address crime.

Facility emergency evacuation procedures were not posted at the time of our inspection.

Findings and Recommendations

Finding 1 – The Rio Vista Police Department Volunteer Program plays an integral part in the City’s effort to make Rio Vista a better place to live.

Recommendation 1 – Continue to use the Volunteer Program to allow police officers time to conduct law enforcement duties.

Finding 2 – Overtime appears high.

Recommendation 2 – The Rio Vista Police Department should take necessary steps to reduce overtime.

Comments

The emergency evacuation procedures have been posted. We commend the Rio Vista Police Department for their efforts in the use of community and Volunteer Programs. The Grand Jury continues to suggest that the City provide a minimum of one holding cell at the police department. The continued growth within the community and changing demographics reinforce our suggestion.

Affected Agencies

- Rio Vista Police Department
- Rio Vista City Manager
- Rio Vista City Council

Courtesy Copy

Solano County Supervisor Mike Reagan